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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus  
3 (MRSA) causes deadly infections in patients receiving  
4 treatment in health care facilities and affects numerous  
5 individuals in the community; and

6           WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has  
7 estimated that hospital-acquired MRSA infections kill more  
8 than 19,000 individuals in the United States every year; and

9           WHEREAS, More than 200 studies support the need for active  
10 detection (screening) of at-risk patients, upon admission to a  
11 healthcare facility, to identify MRSA carriers who are  
12 infected, reducing the chance of a patient acquiring a MRSA  
13 infection and reducing the reservoir of transmission in the  
14 facility; and

15           WHEREAS, Testing and decontaminating of frequently touched  
16 surfaces and other environments for MRSA and other pathogens  
17 can help reduce the reservoir of transmission to patients and  
18 community members; and

19           WHEREAS, Patient and consumer advocacy organizations are  
20 calling upon health care officials and government leaders to  
21 step up and take a more comprehensive approach to stopping MRSA

1 through implementation of active detection (screening) of  
2 high-risk patients and decontaminating frequently touched  
3 surfaces; and

4 WHEREAS, MRSA Survivors Network, the first consumer  
5 organization in Illinois and the United States to raise  
6 awareness concerning the MRSA epidemic and other such  
7 multi-drug resistant health care-acquired infections, has  
8 announced that April 1-7, 2012, has been designated as  
9 International MRSA Testing Week in order to call attention to  
10 this worldwide epidemic; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
12 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
13 we proclaim April 1-7, 2012 as MRSA Testing Week in the State  
14 of Illinois to coincide with International MRSA Testing Week.